

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0078] (page 46, line 16 to page 47, line 4) as follows:

[0078] The dialkyl carbonate obtained by the method of the present invention contains a carbonate ether represented by the above-mentioned formula (2). The lower the cyclic ether content of the cyclic carbonate, the lower the carbonate ether content of the dialkyl carbonate produced. However, for producing a cyclic carbonate having extremely low cyclic ether content, the cyclic carbonate must be produced by a complicated method which is not practical for commercial production. Therefore, in the present invention, the ~~eyelie~~ carbonate ether content of the dialkyl carbonate produced is not more than 10,000 ppm, preferably in the range of from 1 to 10,000 ppm, more preferably from 3 to 5,000 ppm, still more preferably from 10 to 3,000 ppm.